

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6926

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal penalty for interfering with commerce by blocking public roads.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2024

Mr. ROUZER (for himself, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. HUDSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to establish a criminal penalty for interfering with commerce by blocking public roads.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe and Open Streets
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CRIME OF INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCE BY**
7 **BLOCKING PUBLIC ROADS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1951 of title 18, United
9 States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as
2 subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

3 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(b) INTERFERENCE WITH COMMERCE BY BLOCK-
6 ING PUBLIC ROADS.—

7 “(1) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful to, in any
8 way or degree, purposely obstruct, delay, or affect
9 commerce or the movement of any article or com-
10 modity in commerce by blocking a public road or
11 highway, or to attempt or conspire so to do.

12 “(2) PENALTY.—Any person who violates para-
13 graph (1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned
14 not more than 5 years, or both.”.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

16 (1) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of section
17 1951 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by
18 striking “**by threats or violence**”.

19 (2) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections
20 for chapter 95 of title 18, United States Code, is
21 amended by striking the item relating to section
22 1951 and inserting the following:

“1951. Interference with commerce.”.

23 (3) CROSS REFERENCES.—

24 (A) TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.—Sec-
25 tion 8332(o)(2)(B)(xx) of title 5, United States

1 Code, is amended by striking “by threats of vio-
2 lence”.

3 (B) TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—
4 Part I of title 18, United States Code, is
5 amended—

6 (i) in section 1961(1), by striking “,
7 robbery, or extortion”; and

8 (ii) in section 2516(1)(c), by striking
9 “by threats or violence”.

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